

WO-329

c. 1895

Mount Vernon Hotel Annex

Ocean City

Private

The Mount Vernon hotel annex is a two-and-a-half story frame structure that is distinguished by a wood shingled mansard roof. The hotel annex is reported to have been erected shortly after the main hotel by Lemuel Showell, one of the principal promoters of the ocean resort during the nineteenth century. Both the main hotel and the annex appear on the 1897 Sanborn Insurance map of the city.

Local oral tradition relates the annex was erected in an effort to block the ocean view of the neighboring Avondale Hotel since the erection of the Avondale shortly before had blocked the unobstructed view of the bay from the Mount Vernon. Whether the story surrounding the building's construction is true or not, the Mount Vernon hotel and annex are significant as some of the oldest hotel architecture in the resort.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. WO-329

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic MOUNT VERNON HOTEL ANNEX

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Talbot Street between Balt. Ave. and the Boardwalk not for publication

city, town Ocean City vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Worcester

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Katheryn Bunting

street & number Dorchester Street telephone no.:

city, town Ocean City state and zip code MD 21863

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Worcester County Clerk of Court liber

street & number Worcester County Courthouse folio

city, town Snow Hill state MD 21863

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. WO-329

Condition

☐ excellent
☐ good
☒ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Mount Vernon hotel annex is located on the north side of Talbot Street between Baltimore Avenue and the Boardwalk in the heart of Ocean City, Worcester County, Maryland. The two-and-a-half story structure faces south, and the mansard roof is oriented on a north/south axis.

Built around 1895, the two-and-a-half story hotel annex is a narrow rectangular structure with the end of the building facing the street. The Talbot Street elevation is a three-sided bay with a center double-door entrance and flanking plate glass display windows. The glazed double doors are topped by a two-light transom. The second floor is marked by paired two-over-two sash windows in the center bay, and single two-over-two sash windows pierce the adjacent bays. The mansard roof above the projecting pavilion cornice is defined by a center double window with two-over-two sash topped by a segmental arched roof. The side walls of the mansard roof retain patterned wood shingles.

The east and west sides of the annex are closely sited next to adjacent buildings. Asbestos shingles cover the side wall which are pierced by two-over-two sash windows as well. An exterior wooden staircase rises on the east side to provide access to the second floor rooms. The mansard roof is marked by a row of gable roofed dormers filled with two-over-two sash windows.

The interior was not seen.

8. Significance

Survey No. WO-329

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Mount Vernon hotel annex is a two-and-a-half story frame structure that is distinguished by a wood shingled mansard roof. The hotel annex is reported to have been erected shortly after the main hotel by Lemuel Showell, one of the principal promoters of the resort during the nineteenth century. It appears on the 1897 Sanborn Insurance map of the city. Local oral tradition relates the annex was erected in an effort to block the ocean view of the neighboring Avondale Hotel since the erection of the Avondale shortly before had blocked the unobstructed view of the bay from the Mount Vernon. Whether the story is true or not, the Mount Vernon hotel and annex are significant as some of the oldest hotel architecture in the resort.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. WO-329

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting NorthingB

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Zone Easting NorthingC

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian

organization Worcester County date 4/1/90

street & number Worcester County Courthouse telephone 301-632-1194

city or town Snow Hill state Md 21863

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

HISTORIC CONTEXT INFORMATION

Resource Name: MOUNT VERNON HOTEL ANNEX

MHT Inventory Number: WV-329

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA:

1) Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture
Commerce

2) Geographic Orientation:

Eastern Shore

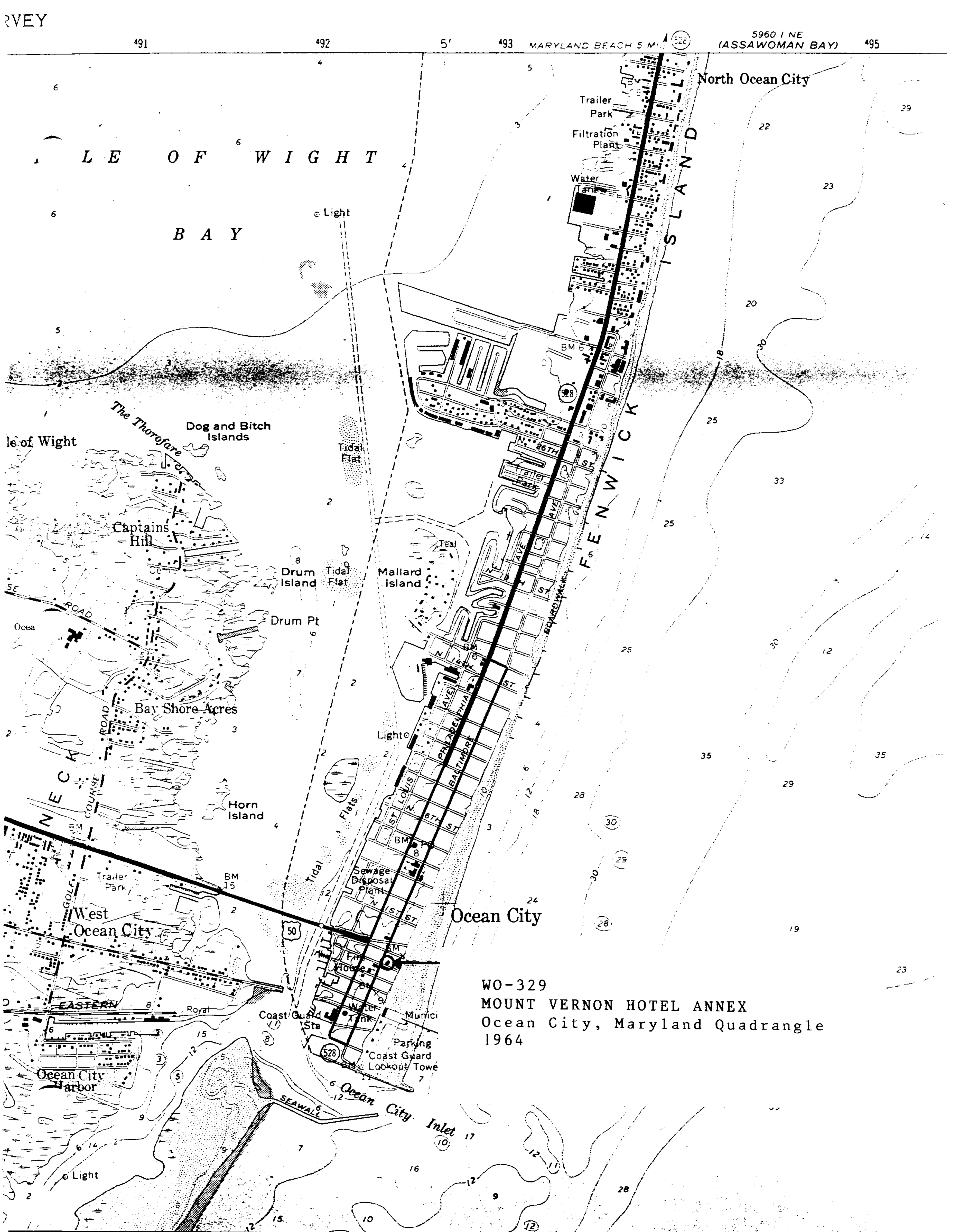
3) Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

Industrial - Urban Dominance
(1870-1930)

4) Resource Type(s):

Standing Structure

1. Guest House and Retail Space



W0-329
MOUNT VERNON HOTEL ANNEX
Ocean City, Maryland Quadrangle
1964